Selfridge Field.
Building #570, Alert Hanger Protection
Security Gate House) (Guard Shack)
Ammo Road northeast of Taxiway A
Harrison Township, Mt. Clemens Vicinity
Macomb County
Michigan

HAER No. MI-116-FF

HAER MICH 50-MTCLE.Y

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD NATIONAL PARK SERVICE GREAT LAKES SYSTEMS OFFICE 1709 JACKSON STREET OMAHA, NEBRASKA 68102-2571

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## HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

SELFRIDGE FIELD BUILDING #570,

HAER No. MI-116-FF

(ALERT HANGAR PROTECTION SECURITY GATE HOUSE)
(Guard Shack)

Location:

East of North-South Runway, north of Taxiway A

Selfridge Air National Guard Base

Mt. Clemens was, Masomb do. Mr.

U.S.G.S. New Haven Quadrangle, Universal Transverse Mercator

Coordinates: 17.349660.4720490

Significance:

Building #570 is the only surviving example of two sentry structures controlling entry points to the Air Defense Command (ADC) hangar/alert facility complex and it assumed a central role in providing security to alert mission aircraft and personnel, providing a direct link to national Cold War defense mission at

Selfridge.

**Description:** 

Building #570 rests on a concrete foundation and is shielded by a very low pitch built up hipped gabled roof faced with steel fascia and flashing. Precast concrete sill and lintels occur on all fenestration. The primary (north) elevation, facing the entry drive consists of a central steel pedestrian entry door accessed by a concrete platform and flanking 6-foot steel windows. A total of 7' 4" of the eight foot wide east elevation, facing outward from the alert facility, consists of steel framed observation windows. The west elevation presents a single steel frame window while the south elevation displays two steel frame windows. The window voids on the original gate house north, east and south elevations butt up at the building corners to provide unobstructed views of approaches to the alert facility.

The present interior presents two small rooms, corresponding with the original gate house and the 1974 addition. The eastern bay consists of a sentry office area with a desk and communications equipment and alarm apparatus on the south wall. The western added bay contains recent vintage observation monitors and equipment.

History:

The original (eastern) bay of this flat-roofed concrete block 8 foot by 10 foot building, an Alert Hangar "Security Gate House" was erected in 1961 by plans from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

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Detroit District.<sup>1</sup> Its size was nearly doubled in 1974 by the construction of an 8' by 9'4" addition extending from the original west (rear) elevation.<sup>2</sup> It provided sentry control for entry into the alert hangar complex until the units were deactivated in the 1970s.

## Sources:

Anonymous, <u>Guide and Directory</u>, <u>Selfridge Air Force Base</u>, Selfridge Air Force Base, Michigan, 1960.

Nigro, Louis, <u>Selfridge Air National Guard Base</u>, <u>An Unofficial History</u>, unpublished ms., Public Information Office, Selfridge ANG Base, Michigan, 1977.

Copy of construction drawing, dated September 30, 1970, U.S. Army Engineer District, Detroit, Corps of Engineers, in possession of Selfridge Base Museum, Mt. Clemens, Michigan. Elevations and Details, Sheet 1 of 3, Drawing No. 86-11-22, File SF 5/1782.

Copy of construction drawing, dated February 24, 1974, Civil Engineering Selfridge Air National Guard, in possession of Selfridge Base Museum, Mt. Clemens, Michigan. Gate House Addition Project No. SLF 74-44.

Interview, Eric Reeve, Selfridge Environmental Management, October 12, 1995

Interview, Colonel Robert Stone (Ret.), Curator, Selfridge Base Museum, October 13, 1995

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Original construction plans on file, Selfridge Base Museum and Base Civil Engineers Office

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Original construction plans on file, Selfridge Base Museum and Base Civil Engineers Office